

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments of the invention comprise techniques to detect support for a given input device by a screen element of a graphical user interface (GUI). In one embodiment of the invention, a runtime version of a screen element's program code is examined to detect an ability to process a device's events. In another embodiment of the invention, a determination is made at runtime whether a screen element delegated processing of a given input device's events to other program code. In yet another embodiment of the invention, the runtime version of a screen element's program code is examined to detect a declaration of program code that is indicative of a the screen element's support or non-support of a given input device. In yet another embodiment of the invention, one or more of the previously-identified embodiments can be combined.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

*This is to certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail Label No. EL 111 265 046 US in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:*

November 30, 1998

Signature

Date

Lillian E. Rodriguez